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(Original Signature of Member)

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. BOR-
SKI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

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A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to make grants
for security improvements to over-the-road bus oper-
ations, and for other purposes.

1   *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3   **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4   This Act may be cited as the "Over-the-Road Bus

5   Security and Safety Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY OVER-THE-ROAD BUS SECURITY AS-SISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation may make grants to private operators of over-the-road buses for system-wide security improvements to their operations, including the reimbursement of extraordinary security-related costs determined by the Secretary to have been incurred by such operators since September 11, 2001, and including—

(1) constructing and modifying garages, facilities, or over-the-road buses to assure their security;

(2) acquiring, upgrading, installing, or operating equipment, software, or accessorial services for collection, storage, or exchange of passenger and driver information through ticketing systems or otherwise, and information links with government agencies;

(3) training employees in recognizing and responding to terrorist threats, evacuation procedures, passenger screening procedures, and baggage inspection;

(4) hiring and training security officers or "bus marshals";

(5) installing cameras and video surveillance equipment on over-the-road buses and at garages and over-the-road bus facilities;

1   (6) creating a program for employee identifica-

2   tion or background investigation;

3   (7) establishing an emergency communications

4   system linked to police and emergency personnel;

5   and

6   (8) implementing and operating passenger

7   screening programs at terminals and on over-the-

8   road buses.

9   (b) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost

10   for which any grant is made under this Act shall be 90

11   percent.

12   (c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Section 5333

13   of title 49, United States Code, shall apply to a grant

14   made under this Act in the same manner and to the same

15   extent as to a grant made under chapter 53 of such title.

16   **SEC. 3. PLAN REQUIREMENT.**

17   The Secretary may not make a grant under this Act

18   to a private operator of over-the-road buses until the oper-

19   ator has first submitted to the Secretary—

20   (1) a plan of the operator for making security

21   improvements described in section 2 and the Sec-

22   retary has approved the plan; and

23   (2) such additional information as the Secretary

24   may require to ensure accountability for the obliga-

1   tion and expenditure of amounts made available to

2   the operator under the grant.

3   **SEC. 4. OVER-THE-ROAD BUS DEFINED.**

4   In this Act, the term "over-the-road bus" means a

5   bus characterized by an elevated passenger deck located

6   over a baggage compartment.

7   **SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

8   (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is

9   authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Trans-

10   portation to carry out this Act $200,000,000 for fiscal

11   year 2002. Such sums shall remain available until ex-

12   pended.

13   (b) IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF PASSENGER

14   FEES.—The Secretary shall impose and collect from pas-

15   sengers of private operators of over-the-road buses in fis-

16   cal years 2002, 2003, and 2004 a fee to pay the cost of

17   carrying out this Act. Such fee shall be $0.25 for each

18   bus trip of a passenger of a private operator of an over-

19   the-road bus if the cost of the trip is more than $5. Sub-

20   ject to subsection (c) and notwithstanding section 9701

21   of title 31, United States Code, and the procedural re-

22   quirements of section 553 of title 5, United States Code,

23   the Secretary shall impose the fee through the publication

24   of notice of such fee in the Federal Register, and begin

1 collection of the fee within 60 days of the date of enact-
2 ment of this Act, or as soon as possible thereafter.

3   (c) REQUIREMENT FOR APPROPRIATION BEFORE IM-
4 POSITION OR COLLECTION OF FEES.—The Secretary shall
5 not impose or collect a fee under this section before the
6 date on which all or any portion of the amounts authorized
7 by subsection (a) are appropriated to carry out this Act.

8   (d) FEES PAYABLE TO SECRETARY.—All fees im-
9 posed and amounts collected under this section are pay-
10 able to the Secretary.

11   (e) RECEIPTS CREDITED TO ACCOUNT.—Notwith-
12 standing section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, all
13 fees collected under this section—

14   (1) shall be credited to a separate account es-
15   tablished in the Treasury;

16   (2) shall be available immediately, without fur-
17   ther appropriation, for expenditure but only for
18   making grants under section 2 in fiscal years 2003
19   and 2004; and

20   (3) shall remain available until expended.

21   (f) FEES COLLECTED BY BUS OPERATORS.—A fee
22 imposed under this section shall be collected by the private
23 operators of over-the-road buses and shall be remitted by
24 such operators to the Secretary on the last day of each
25 calendar month. The amount to be remitted shall be for

6

1 the calendar month preceding the calendar month in which

2 the remittance is made.

3   (g) INFORMATION.—The Secretary may require the

4 provision of such information as the Secretary decides is

5 necessary to verify that fees have been collected and remit-

6 ted at the proper times and in the proper amounts.

7   (h) REFUNDS.—The Secretary may refund to a pri-

8 vate operator of an over-the-road bus any fee paid by such

9 operator by mistake or any amount paid by such operator

10 in excess of that required.